

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-2, 5-8, 12, 26, 28-29, 31-33, 35, and 37, and add claim 38-57 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

forwarding a prefix value ~~from a first node to a second node~~ in a packet switched environment to create a security association with the node based on the prefix value, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address, ~~associated with the first node;~~

~~creating a security association between the first node and the second node based on the prefix value;~~

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses ~~including~~ comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the packet switched environment is a internet protocol multimedia subsystem of a 3rd generation network.

3. (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~first node~~ method is carried out at is-user equipment.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the message is a protocol message.

6. (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the protocol a session initiation protocol.

7. (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the message is a session initiation protocol register message.

8. (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the prefix value is included in a header of the message.

9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the prefix value is allocated by a gateway general packet radio service support node.

13-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A communication terminal~~ An apparatus, comprising:
a transmitter configured to forward a prefix value to be forwarded to a node in a packet switched environment to create a security association ~~with the communication terminal~~ with the node based on the prefix value, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address ~~of the communication terminal~~;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses ~~including~~ comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the forwarding of the prefix value ~~from the first node to the second node~~ comprises forwarding the prefix value in a message.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus, A communication terminal~~
comprising:

forwarding means for forwarding a prefix value to a node in a packet switched environment to create a security association ~~with the communication terminal~~ with the node based on the prefix value, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address ~~of the communication terminal;~~₁

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses ~~including~~ comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) ~~A second node~~ An apparatus, comprising:

a receiving unit ~~for receiving~~ configured to receive a prefix value from a ~~first node~~ in a packet switched environment, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address ~~of the first node;~~ and

a creation unit ~~for creating~~ configured to create a security association between the ~~first node and the second node apparatus~~ based on the prefix value;₁

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses ~~including~~

comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

32. (Currently Amended) ~~A second node~~ An apparatus, comprising:
receiving means for receiving a prefix value from a ~~first node~~ in a packet switched environment, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address ~~of the first node~~; and

creation means for creating a security association between the ~~first node~~ and the ~~second node~~ apparatus based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses ~~including~~ comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first internet protocol address and another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, ~~in addition to the first internet protocol address, is~~ are an internet protocol addresses of the same first node ~~apparatus~~.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A communication terminal~~The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein ~~another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, in addition to the first internet protocol address~~ and another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses are, ~~is an~~ internet protocol addresses of the same first node~~apparatus~~.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) ~~A second node~~The apparatus as claimed in claim 31, wherein ~~another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses, in addition to the first internet protocol address~~ and another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses are, ~~is an~~ internet protocol addresses of the same first node.

38. (New) A method, comprising:
receiving a prefix value from a node in a packet switched environment, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address; and
creating a security association with the node based on the prefix value;
wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

39. (New) The method as claimed in claim 38, wherein the first internet protocol address and another of the plurality of internet protocol addresses are internet protocol addresses of the same node.

40. (New) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium, the computer program configured to control a processor to perform operations comprising:

receiving a prefix value from a node in a packet switched environment, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address; and

creating a security association with the node based on the prefix value;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

41. (New) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium, the computer program configured to control a processor to perform operations comprising:

forwarding a prefix value to a node in a packet switched environment to create a security association with the node based on the prefix value, said prefix value referring to a portion of a first internet protocol address;

wherein the security association is valid for a plurality of different internet protocol addresses, each of said plurality of internet protocol addresses comprising said portion of the first internet protocol address to which the prefix value refers.

42. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the packet switched environment is a internet protocol multimedia subsystem of a 3rd generation network

43. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, comprising user equipment.

44. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the transmitter is configured to forward the prefix value in a message.

45. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 44, wherein the message is a protocol message

46. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 45, wherein the protocol a session initiation protocol.

47. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 44, wherein the message is a session initiation protocol register message.

48. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 44, wherein the prefix value is included in a header of the message.

49. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 48, wherein the header is a security client header.

50. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 49, wherein the prefix value is included in an extension parameter of the security client header.

51. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 26, wherein the prefix value is allocated by a gateway general packet radio service support node.

52. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 31, wherein the packet switched environment is a internet protocol multimedia subsystem of a 3rd generation network

53. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 31, comprising proxy call state control function entity.

54. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 31, wherein the receiver is configured to receive the prefix value in a message.

55. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 54, wherein the message is a session initiation protocol register message.

56. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 54, wherein the prefix value is included in a header of the message.

57. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 56, wherein the header is a security client header.